

ALPHONSE BARBOT.

APRIL 13, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CURRY, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the memorial of Alphonse Barbot, a lieutenant in the United States navy, praying for the reimbursement of an amount of money wrongfully charged against him on the books of the Treasury Department, report:

That Lieutenant Barbot alleges that in the year 1847 he was a passed midshipman in the navy, doing duty on board of the United States schooner "Tampico," commanded by Lieutenant John P. Gillis; that in consequence of the detachment of Lieutenant Gillis, caused by sickness, he became, as the next officer in rank on board, the commanding and disbursing officer, (there being no purser on board;) that, upon the settlement of his accounts with the proper accounting officer, he became, upon the final settlement, deficient to the amount of two hundred and twenty-four dollars, which deficiency was caused by the miscarriage of certain vouchers for disbursements, which were forwarded by the regular and usual mail, but never reached their destination; that he then forwarded by Julius S. Bobier, a passed midshipman, returning to Washington city, duplicate vouchers, directed to his agents in Washington city, but they were unfortunately lost by Mr. Bobier. In consequence of the vouchers not being received, the accounting officer did not allow him the proper credit on the settlement of his accounts. The deficiency has been paid to the Treasury Department, in compliance with the directions of that office.

A letter from the Fourth Auditor's office of the Treasury Department, dated 28th January, 1859, states that the books of that office exhibit no indebtedness on the part of Lieutenant Barbot to the government.

A sworn statement of Julius S. Bobier is to this effect: That in or about the year 1848 Lieutenant Barbot placed in his hands, (as he was coming on direct to Washington,) on board the United States ship North Carolina, a package, directed to Messrs. Mecklin & Winder, attorneys and claim agents in the city of Washington, "said to contain certain vouchers of said Barbot for disbursements made by him whilst he was in command of the United States steamer Tampico. During part of the time that vessel was one of the Gulf squadron,

commanded by Commodore M. C. Perry, during the Mexican war." The deposition further states that Mr. Bobier does not know whether said package, containing said vouchers, was ever delivered to the said Mecklin & Winder, or whether they were lost, but that he is under the impression that they were lost.

Without expressing any opinion on the abstract merits of this case, if sustained by satisfactory evidence, your committee cannot, with the insufficient evidence before them, report a favorable bill.